

DECLARATION OF UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No. _____

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

AUTOMATIC CONTRAST FOCUSING WITH THREE OPTICAL PATHS

_____, the specification of which
(check one) ☒ is described and claimed in PCT International Application PCT/EP 00/10842 filed on
(MM/DD/YYYY) _____ amended on _____ (if applicable) (OR) _____ is described in United States Application
Number _____ filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) _____ (OR) _____ is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Claimed? Yes No
199 52 833.0	DE	11/03/1999	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
199 56 761.1	DE	11/25/1999	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States Provisional Application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent	Parent Filing Date	Parent Patent Number

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

5 Donald L. Dennison
William H. Meserole
Burton ScheinerReg. No. 19920
Reg. No. 20833
Reg. No. 24018Ira J. Schultz
Scott T. WakemanReg. No. 28666
Reg. No. 37750DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
DENNISON, MESEROLE, SCHEINER & SCHULTZ
1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 612
Arlington, Virginia 22202-3417DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:
(703)412-1155
(703)412-1161 (fax)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. §1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor Ralf CHRISTOPH
(First, Middle, Family Name or Surname)
Inventor's signature Ralf Christoph Date 01.11.2001
Residence Germany Citizenship German
(City, State, Country)
Full Post Office Address Taunusblick 2, 35641 Schoeffengrund DEX

Full name of second joint inventor Christian LOTZE
(First, Middle, Family Name or Surname)
Second inventor's signature Christian Lotze Date 01.11.2001
Residence Germany Citizenship German
(City, State, Country)
Full Post Office Address Erfurter Strasse 2, 35463 Fernwald DEX